



**DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY**  
**THE DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT COMMAND**  
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IN REPLY  
REFER TO AQOA

JAN 27 1997

**MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICTS**

**SUBJECT: DCMC Memorandum No. 97-01, Clarification of DCMC Administration of  
Mircopurchase Automation (MPA) Contracts**

This is an INFORMATION memorandum effective for a 2 year period ending January 31, 1999. Target audience: All CAOs.

The purpose of this letter is to clarify existing policy relating to contracts awarded by the Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC) under the MPA program when performance is not at the contractor's primary location. MPA awards can be identified by a "V" in the ninth position of the award number.

MPA is a prototype contracting project designed to streamline and automate the processes associated with the solicitation and award of contracts under \$2,500. MPA is only a prototype and other automated systems are being developed to replace it. With MPA, information regarding items DSCC wishes to purchase is posted on an electronic bulletin board. Potential suppliers can bid electronically and an award is eventually made via the Standard Automated Material Management System (SAMMS).

The MPA transfer of data into SAMMS has limitations resulting in contracts that only show the contractor's primary location and cannot show any secondary place of performance. Because of this limitation, no automatic distribution of contracts to secondary CAOs occurs. The contracts require the prime contractor to notify the CAO if performance will occur at another location. The CAO in turn is to notify the cognizant CAO and provide copies of the contract. Efforts are being made to eliminate this limitation in the automated system that will replace MPA.

Several CAOs have expressed concern with the potential workload impact of administering these contracts because of a belief that a contract modification must be issued to reflect the actual place of performance. FAR 42.204 (a) (1) - (3) do not require a contract modification in these circumstances. The CAO is required to provide "necessary contract documents" in writing, but a modification of the contract is not necessary.

The POC for this is David Hartnett at AQOA, (703) 767-2376) or DSN 427-2376.

  
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